

COPY NO.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
OFFICE OF CURRENT INTELLIGENCE
9 February 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Intelligence)

SUBJECT: Offshore Island Situation

General

Military activity in the offshore islands continues at a low level.

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Communist antiaircraft guns have fired on US planes in the Tachen area and ground fire downed a US attack bomber which flew over the coast at about 1030 hours Far East time on 9 February. The pilot and crew of the plane were picked up after the plane ditched. US Navy sources are quoted as describing incident as "not hostile," since plane was "off limits." Peiping had indicated on 7 February that it intended to take action against aircraft overflying Communist-held territory.

Tachens

Evacuation of civilians from the Tachens is reported completed except for scattered groups still coming down from the hills.

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Matsus

Negative.

Quemoy

Negative.

NAVY review

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Weather

Rain is reported between the Tachen area and Formosa with drizzle and coastal fog off the northeast coast of Formosa. In the Tachens, flying conditions will be poor during the morning hours but will improve during the day. Outlook is for continued overcast weather. Winds in the Tachens are at 10-15 knots.

HUNTINGTON D. SHELDON
Assistant Director,
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